

Boreal All-Mountain Terrain Park

Boreal Mountain Resort has opened the first and only all-mountain terrain park in Northern California this winter. The terrain parks consist of 100 rails, jumps and funboxes for every ability, including a 450-foot long superpipe. Additionally, Boreal has added two new grooming machines to the parks, 50 rails, 50 snow features and extensive staffing. Contact: Boreal Mountain Resort, (530) 426-3666, *info@borealski.com*, *www.rideboreal.com*.

Cedar House Sport Hotel

A new, edgy European style mountain, adventure vacation hotel is slated to open for visitors to Truckee late March. This 42-room hotel is the product of a husband and wife team's dream to design, build and run their own hotel. Guests can enjoy mountain sport activities and guided services combined with European-style hospitality where guests can mingle with the owners. Contact: Cedar House Sport Hotel, Patty Baird, (530) 582-5655, stay@cedarhousesporthotel.com, www.cedarhousesporthotel.com.

Lake Tahoe CeleBEARtion

Bears will be appearing all over Lake Tahoe's South Shore beginning in May 2006. Made of fiberglass, the bears will be festooned in brightly colored paints, creative mosaics and other artistic mediums. The first life-size bear was painted in airbrush technique by Aaron Hagar, musician Sammy Hagar's son and is located in Harveys Casino near Cabo Wabo Cantina. Aaron painted the bear in a Cabo Wabo uniform. Bears by the Lake...A CeleBEARtion! is organized by the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority and the 2005 Leadership Lake Tahoe class as a fundraiser for local youth organizations. The event is modeled after Chicago's Cows on Parade, Cincinatti's Big Pig Gig, and San Francisco's Heart Extravaganza. The decorated sitting and standing bears will be placed in outdoor public galleries from May—September 2006. Bear sighting maps will be available for self-guided tours of the outdoor galleries. The bears will be auctioned off in September with the proceeds going to charity. Contact: Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority, (800) AT-TAHOE (288-2463) or (530) 544-5050, www.bluelaketahoe.com.

New Chairlift Installed at Alpine Meadows

North Lake Tahoe's Alpine Meadows ski resort has installed a new, high-speed detachable chair lift in its Sherwood Bowl area, which will transport skiers up the mountain two times faster than its predecessor. The new lift provides skiers and boarders even greater access to the approximately 400 acres of intermediate groomed and expert off-trail terrain. Contact: Alpine Meadows, (530) 583-4232, *info@skialpine.com*, *www.skialpine.com*.

New High-Speed Chairlift at Kirkwood

The new high-speed quad chairlift, TC Express, will provide a speedy ride to the top of Timber Creek, Kirkwood Mountain Resort's beginner area. Ranked by *USA Today* as one of the top 10 places in North America to learn to ski, Timber Creek features a variety of fall line runs that create a natural progression on which to learn. The TC Express is also great news for the expert as it provides a fast return from The Palisades, some of Kirkwood's most coveted advanced terrain. The new chairlift is the first step in a multiphase plan to build the premier Learn to Ski and Ride and Family Area in North America. Contact: Kirkwood Mountain Resort, (209) 258-6000, *info@kirkwood.com*, *www.kirkwood.com*.

Northstar-at-Tahoe

Northstar-at-Tahoe has unveiled scores of enhancements this winter season. The new year-round 9,000-square-foot ice skating rink opened in December 2005. Northstar has teamed up with Burton Snowboards to create the first Burton Progression Park, featuring small and medium sized features ideally spaced for teaching park riding techniques. A standard-size halfpipe was added to Northstar's collection of freestyle features. New enclosed buses can shuttle guests from their cars to the Village at Northstar's entrance. Valet parking is also offered. Northstar-at-Tahoe also began to open the 60,000-square-feet of retail space in Phase 1 of the resort's new Village at Northstar this December. A variety of handselected retailers will occupy the space that is owned and managed by Booth Creek Resorts. Open retailers include The Oakley Icon Store, North Face, Butterbox, True North with an in-store wine and coffee bar, Helly Hansen, Big Wave Burritos and Wraps, and children's stores Mine and Freckles. Contact: Northstar-at-Tahoe, (800) GO-NORTH (466-6784) or (530) 562-1010, www.northstarattahoe.com.

Sierra-at-Tahoe

Sierra-at-Tahoe blends fun and learning in its new on-mountain adventure zones for kids. Terrain features such as whoop-de-do's, mini jumps and banked turns entertain, while signage and animated figures educate children on local history and native animal species. Each adventure zone focuses on a different theme like bear caves, Maidu Meadows, the Pony Express, and the Gold Rush. The interactive displays allow children to climb in and out of tree houses, caves and secret hideaways. A kid's trail map makes it easy for kids and parents to navigate through the zones. The trail map can be found online at www.SierraAtTahoe.com. Those who drive their personal vehicle to the resort can now kick back and enjoy the ride on the resort's West Slope shuttle, serving Sacramento. The shuttle offers round-trip transportation to Sierra on Saturdays from the Surf and Skate store in Sacramento. Contact: Sierra-at-Tahoe, (530) 659-7453, www.SierraAtTahoe.com.